

the War Office asking that, if possible, the Territorial Manœuvres proposed to be held in the New Forest during May and June should be postponed until a later date, owing to the disturbance that would be caused to the fauna at that season of the year. This was agreed to.

A vote of thanks to the Zoological Society of London for the use of their Office during the past year was unanimously passed, and the Meeting was adjourned.

After the Meeting the Annual Dinner was held, in conjunction with the monthly Dinner of the British Ornithologist's Club, at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street.

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. XXII.—*Obituary.*

DR. A. B. MEYER, DR. CARL PARROT, and  
MR. W. E. D. SCOTT.

DR. ADOLF BERNHARD MEYER.

ADOLF BERNHARD MEYER, whose death at Berlin took place on February 5th last, was born in Hamburg in 1840. He studied Medicine and Natural Science in the University of Berlin, and commenced his remarkable career as a scientific traveller and naturalist early in life, devoting himself specially to the Islands of the Eastern Archipelago, where he made many brilliant discoveries. In 1870 he commenced his explorations in Celebes and passed on thence to the Philippine Islands and New Guinea, where he ascended the Arfak Mountains and made a large collection of Birds. Returning to Germany in 1874, Meyer was appointed Director of the Royal Museum of Zoology, Anthropology, and Ethnography at Dresden. In this position he remained for the next thirty years, and made his Museum famous throughout the scientific world for its excellent organization and valuable contents. During

this period he published a long series of communications, chiefly relating to Birds, in the 'Journal für Ornithologie,' the 'Proceedings of the Zoological Society,' and 'The Ibis.' As will be seen by reference to our Indexes, the papers which he wrote in this Journal were numerous. Meyer had many English friends and spoke our language excellently. The principal separate works that he published were 'On the Birds of Celebes and the Neighbouring Islands' (in conjunction with his English Assistant, Mr. L. W. Wiglesworth), and his 'Abbildungen der Vogelskeleten.' Next to Ornithology, Anthropology was his favourite pursuit, and he wrote many Ethnological papers.

In 1893, Meyer gave up his position at Dresden and retired to Berlin, where he is said to have been busily engaged in linguistic studies and in various antiquarian explorations. One of Meyer's most useful and most successful pieces of work was his invention of the "Dresden Case." For over twenty years he worked at the construction of an ideal museum-case which should keep out insects and dust, and yet allow the spectator a clear sight of its contents. This was a very difficult problem, but Meyer solved it more nearly than anyone else had done, and "Dresden Cases" of glass and iron are now well known all over the civilized world.

Besides being a member of most of the learned Societies on the Continent, Meyer was a Corresponding Member of the Zoological Society of London (since 1878) and a Foreign Member of our Union (1881), and was always ready to favour his English friends with information.

#### DR. CARL PARROT.

CARL PHILIP AUGUST PARROT, the President of the Bavarian Ornithological Society, died at Munich on the 28th of January, 1911, after a short illness. The son of Dr. Jean Parrot, he was born at Castell (Lower Franconia) on the 1st February, 1867, and thus, at the time of his death,

wanted only three days of completing his 44th year. After studying Medical Sciences at the Universities of Berlin, Vienna, and Munich, Parrot obtained the degree of M.D. in 1894, and settled as a medical doctor in the latter city. From his earliest youth he professed a strong taste for Natural History, especially Ornithology, and all of his spare time was given to his favourite science. In 1897, Carl Parrot founded the "Ornithologische Verein München," which, a few years afterwards, was transformed into the Ornithological Society of Bavaria, and he remained its President up to the time of his decease. The main object of this organization was the study of the distribution and migration of birds in the Bavarian kingdom, although general ornithological questions were by no means neglected, as may be seen by referring to the various volumes of the 'Jahresbericht' (later 'Verhandlungen') of that Society. It is due to the untiring energy and never-ceasing interest of Dr. Parrot that Bavaria is now provided with a staff of nearly one thousand observers, by whom notices about the appearance and movements of migratory birds are regularly sent in. In later years Parrot took considerable interest in systematic Ornithology, devoting his studies principally to the Palæarctic region. Besides, he published an important memoir upon the birds of the Island of Banka and the Deli district of Sumatra in the Transactions of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences in 1907. The winter of 1909-10 he spent in the Island of Corsica, whence he brought back a considerable collection of birds. The report on the results of his exertions is being published in von Tschusi's 'Ornithologisches Jahrbuch.' Carl Parrot not only was a most painstaking and accurate writer, but also a thoroughly trained field-ornithologist, who knew how to find and how to watch the birds in their haunts. His loss is mourned by a widow and two infant children, as well as by many friends, both at home and abroad. In the Ornithological Society of Bavaria the premature death of Dr. Parrot creates a blank which it will be impossible to fill.—C. E. H.

## MR. W. E. D. SCOTT.

IN the person of WILLIAM EARLE DODGE SCOTT, Birds have lost one of their most devoted students. Mr. Scott was born in Brooklin, N.Y., in April 1852, the son of Moses Warren and Juliet Ann Scott, and, after attending lectures at Cornell University for a year, entered the Lawrence Scientific School at Harvard as a special student of Natural History.

During Scott's career at Harvard all his spare time was devoted to collecting and observing birds. After graduating (in 1873) he was appointed (in 1875) Curator of the newly founded Museum of Biology at Princeton College. His work at Princeton lasted nearly thirty years, but despite his poor health and somewhat feeble physique he managed to make some interesting and useful excursions during that period.

The winter of 1891-2 was passed in Jamaica. Scott's "Observations on the Birds of Jamaica," which were published in 'The Auk' of 1891, 1892, and 1893, in a series of eight papers, contain a mass of information on this subject, which should be carefully studied by those who are interested in the Ornithology of the Antilles. It gives a complete list of all the Birds of Jamaica known to him (212 in number) and excellent field-notes on their habits. Other excursions, shorter or longer, were made to Florida, Arizona, and Virginia, so that there were few parts of the United States with which Scott did not make himself well acquainted. Details on these excursions and a general account of his adventures in life will be found in his 'Story of a Bird-lover,' one of the most interesting books to Ornithologists that the writer of this Notice has ever read\*.

In the spring of 1900 Scott came to England and passed several weeks of study in the Bird-room of the Natural History Museum at South Kensington. Here his English correspondents had the opportunity of making his personal acquaintance, and a more kind, genial, and well-informed

\* See 'Ibis,' 1903, p. 624.

individual (as all agreed) was hardly to be met with. Scott's primary object in this visit was to examine the Patagonian specimens in our National Collection. He had undertaken to work out and describe the birds collected during an expedition sent out by the Princeton University to Patagonia to investigate the Geology and Zoology of that country, and for that purpose it was necessary to see what was to be found in the European Museums. Scott's uncertain state of health sadly interfered with the preparation of his report on this subject, and two parts of it only \* have, as yet, been issued.

About 1906 Scott and his wife moved their headquarters to Saranac Lake, N.Y., supposed to be the "Davos" of North America. The following extracts from a letter received from Mrs. Scott will give some idea of his life at this charming place:—

Of the years, four in number, that Mr. Scott spent in Saranac Lake, none were wasted, they were full of interest to the last. His first winter out of doors gave him wonderful familiarity with the resident birds; the Chickadees, Nuthatches, and Blue Jays were his daily visitors, the two former feeding from his hand and awakening him in the early morning by alighting on his head. The red squirrels, too, were persistent in their attentions, and later the chipmunks came regularly for their ration of pea-nuts. The Ruffed Grouse crowded the birch trees close to the door. So there were compensations. Then, as Mr. Scott grew stronger, he made himself familiar with the flora and fauna of the country, and he had particular pleasure in studying the pond-life which is teeming during our short summer. He wrote a series of sketches for the 'Journal of Out-Door-Life,' a publication particularly designed to help the invalids who must live in the open. These charming sketches I hope to have republished in book form.

As you know, Mr. Scott was also busy with his Patagonian record, and that gave him constant satisfaction. He had further projected an elaborate review of all his field-work which it would have taken two or more years to complete. It was also his keen desire to visit Patagonia, where there remains so much to be discovered regarding the bird-life, for he felt that the material at hand only in a small measure revealed the condition of the avifauna, and that practically nothing is known of the life-history of many of the species. Mr. Scott has set forth many of the problems remaining to be studied, and I shall try to have this

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\* See 'Ibis,' 1905, p. 130, and 1910, p. 563.

appear in one of the forthcoming volumes. I think you know that the manuscript was left in a nearly complete form, and that the publication will now go on rapidly. It was a matter of keen regret to Mr. Scott that there should have been this long delay, but it was due to no fault of his, but to the fact, I think, that it was not possible to hasten a work involving so many different subjects.

Mr. Scott died, rather suddenly, at his home at Saranac Lake, on the 21st of August, 1910, leaving a widow (Marion Johonot Scott) who, it is stated, is nearly as great a Bird-lover as her late talented husband, and who constantly assisted him in his work.

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### XXIII.—*Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.*

[Continued from p. 398.]

#### 62. '*Annals*' of the Natural History Society of Cyprus.

[Cyprus Natural History Society, *Annals*, No. ii. Jan. to Dec. 1910. Nicosia, Cyprus, 1911.]

We are glad to find that the Naturalists of Cyprus are continuing their good work, and have issued a second number of their *Annals*. It records a "very successful year" in 1910, and the reading of several papers on birds before the Society. The past year has been remarkable, we are told, for a very large number of observations and records, and the names of more than thirty species have been added to the Cyprian List. We will not specify them, as Mr. Bucknill has promised us a special paper on the subject, which we hope to be able to print in our next number.

In this number of the '*Annals*' there are also notices on the Mammals, Reptiles, Mollusks, and Lepidoptera of Cyprus.

#### 63. '*Archivum Zoologicum*.'

[*Archivum Zoologicum*, redactionis curam gerentibus Cs. de Pete, Dr. J. de Madarász et E. Csiki. A laboratorio Zoologico Hungarico editum. Budapest, 1909-10.]

We have already noticed one of Dr. J. v. Madarász's